



**Little
Company
of Mary
Hospital**

affiliated with
Little Company of
Mary Health Services

4101 Torrance Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90503

(310) 540-7676

October 17, 1997

Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development
Attention: David Werdegarr, MD, MPH
Office of the Director
1600 Ninth Street, Room 433
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Dr. Werdegarr,

Little Company of Mary Hospital is governed by our mission to deliver the highest quality of care. We respect the patient as an individual and their entitlement to information available to make an informed decision about the hospital they choose. We feel the OSHPD California Hospital Outcomes Project 1997 is a process that helps to support this objective.

As you point out in your *Report of Heart Attacks Users Guide*, there are limitations in this Outcomes Project in fully describing the quality of care given at hospitals. Although your recent AMI validation project does help to satisfy many of the questions that we had last year, the reliance upon this 1991-1993 data as a measure of today's hospital quality is suspect. We would encourage OSHPD to analyze and report data in a more timely manner. Hospitals, medical staffs and consumers would most benefit from current outcome findings.

We are proud of the quality care given at LCMH and we support all efforts directed at accurately identifying and improving quality medical care.

Very truly yours,

Mark Costa
President, Little Company of Mary Hospital